EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1.   An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or

additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR

1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the

payment of the issue fee.

2.   Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with

Joseph W. Iskra, # 57,485, beginning on 22 May 2009 for the proposed claim language for

claims 1 and 26 which was approved by the Inventors and the confirmation relayed to the

Examiner on 1 June 2009. The amended claims follow:

1. (Currently Amended): A mesh dividing device for performing a mesh dividing process

of an analytical target model provided as three-dimensional CAD data into cuboids for

numerical-analysis, comprising:

a library for previously storing two or more kinds of parameter kits each including a

maximum number of cuboids which defines the upper limit of the number of said cuboids and

parameters for division-control for dividing said analytical target model into said cuboids;

a selecting unit for selecting at least one of said two or more kinds of parameter kits

stored in said library; and

a mesh dividing unit for performing a mesh dividing process so as to divide said

analytical target model, based on a parameter kit selected by said selecting unit ~~(hereinafter~~

~~referred to selected parameter kit)~~ and said three-dimensional CAD data, into cuboids of less

than

or equal to the maximum number of cuboids included in said selected parameter kit, and

a conversion time estimating unit for estimating, based on said selected parameter kit, a

conversion time required for said mesh dividing unit to perform a mesh dividing process for said

analytical target model, wherein said display unit displays said conversion time estimated by said

conversion time estimating unit.

26. (Currently Amended): A method for setting, when performing a mesh dividing

process to divide an analytical target model provided as three-dimensional CAD data into said

cuboids, a maximum number of cuboids which defines the upper limit of the number of cuboids

for numerical-analysis, and parameters for division-control for dividing said analytical target

model into said cuboids, comprising the steps of:

previously storing two or more kinds of parameter kits, as a library, each including said

maximum number of cuboids and said parameters for division-control;

selecting at least one of said two or more kinds of parameter kits stored in said library,

when performing a mesh dividing process for said analytical target model; and

setting a maximum number of cuboids and a parameter for division-control included in

the selected parameter kit, on a <u>computing</u> unit for performing said mesh dividing process; and

a conversion time estimating unit for estimating, based on said selected parameter kit, a

conversion time required for said mesh dividing unit to perform a mesh dividing process for said

analytical target model, wherein said display unit displays said conversion time estimated by said

conversion time estimating unit.

Reasons for Allowance

3.   In response to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed 24 March 2009, the

amended claims have been accepted and entered into the record. The claims, as further amended

by the Examiner, have placed the application in condition for allowance.

4.   The following is the examiner's statement of reasons for allowance with the bolded text

being the elements that particularly establish the novelty of the invention over the prior art: It is

deemed novel and unobvious over the prior art of record to provide a mesh dividing device and

method, for performing a mesh dividing process of an analytical target model provided as three-

dimensional CAD data into cuboids for numerical-analysis, comprising: a library storing two or

more kinds of parameter kits each including **a maximum number of cuboids which defines the**

upper limit of the number of said cuboids and parameters for division-control for dividing said

analytical target model into said cuboids; a selecting unit for selecting at least one of said two or

more kinds of parameter kits stored in said library; and a mesh dividing computing unit for

performing a mesh dividing process so as to divide said analytical target model, based on a

parameter kit selected and the three-dimensional CAD data, **into cuboids of less than or equal**

to the maximum number of cuboids included in the selected parameter kit, and **a**

conversion time estimating unit for estimating, based on the selected parameter kit, a

conversion time required for the mesh dividing unit to perform a mesh dividing process for

the analytical target model, and displaying the conversion time estimated by the conversion time estimating unit.

5.   Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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